

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ACDA-07 AF-08 AID-05 ARA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00
EB-07 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04
NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 PA-01 SP-02 DLOS-06 SS-15
USIE-00 PRS-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 (ISO) W
-----180427Z 074112 /62

O P 180056Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2072
INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
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UNSUMMARY
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: USUN DAILY CLASSIFIED SUMMARY NO. 6

JANUARY 17, 1977

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1. HUMAN RIGHTS IN SOUTH KOREA --

AMB DUK CHOO MOON, OF THE OFFICE OF THE UN OBSERVER OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, PRESENTED TO THE US REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, GARMENT, A RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNICATION AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL FILED WITH THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, AND EXPLAINED SOUTH KOREA'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE AMNESTY CRITICISM. (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE -- USUN 119)

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2. SYG TO VISIT MIDDLE EAST --

SYG WALDHEIM TOLD CORRESPONDENTS HE HAD DECIDED TO MAKE A TWO-WEEK TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST THE FIRST HALF OF FEBRUARY, AND WOULD VISIT EGYPT, SYRIA, LEBANON, JORDAN AND ISRAEL. HE HAD CONSULTED WITH THE PARTIES PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED AND THE TWO CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE, BELIEVED THAT THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES MIGHT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WELL OFFER A BETTER OPPORTUNITY FOR RESUMPTION OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS THAN HAD EXISTED FOR SOME TIME, AND WAS CONVINCE THAT SHOULD THIS OPPORTUNITY BE LOST THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE WAST WOULD SOON AGAIN BECOME DANGEROUS AND A THREAT TO THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE.

3. ANTI-APARTHEID CAMPAIGN BY TRADE UNIONS --

APARTHEID COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HARRIMAN (NIGERIA) ISSUED A STATEMENT JAN. 17 UNEQUIVOCALLY SUPPORTING THE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED BY THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (ICFTU) AND OTHER MAJOR LABOR ORGANIZATIONS TO SET ASIDE THE WEEK OF JAN. 17 FOR CONCERTED TRADE UNION ACTION IN PROTEST AGAINST THE SOUTH AFRICAN APARTHEID REGIME. HE REFFERED TO THE PROGRAM OF ACTION ANNEXED

TO RESOLUTION A/31/6 J, AND URGED ALL UNIONS, PARTICULARLY THE AFL-CIO

AND OTHER LABOR UNIONS IN THE US, TO JOIN IN THE PROTEST CAMPAIGN SO THAT IT COULD BE WORLDWIDE.

4. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL --

BEFORE THE COUNCIL CONCLUDED ITS ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION JAN. 14, IT DECIDED TO REFER TO THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS THE GA'S "INVITATION" TO REPORT ON "THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE USE OF THE VETO" IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL ON MATTERS RELATING TO SOUTH AFRICA, 33-8 (DENMARK, FRANCE, FRG, ITALY, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, UK, US)-10 AUSTRIA, CANADA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, IRAN, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, UKRAINE, USSR), WITH GABON, GREECE AND KENYA ABSENT. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS REQUESTED BY IRAN, AFTER THE UK HAD PROPOSED DELETING THAT "INVITATION" FROM THE 1977 WORK PROGRAM ON THE GROUNDS IT WAS IMPROPER TO HAVE ONE ORGAN OF THE UN REVIEW DECISIONS TAKEN BY ANOTHER. THE US, FRANCE, FRG, AND JAPAN CONCURRED. OF THE 14 DELGATIONS SPEAKING FOR THE RETENTION OF THE ITEM, A NUMBER FELT THAT IF ECOSOC DECIDE NOT TO REFER THE RESOLUTION TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION IT WOULD PUT INTO QUESTION THE SUPREMACY OF GA DECISIONS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN EXPLAINING THE SOVIET VOTE ON "THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE USE OF THE VETO," MAKEYEV SAID HE FLET PARA 8 OF THE GA RESOLUTION WAS OUTSIDE THE OVERALL CONTEXT OF THE RESOLUTION, ASKING ECOSOC TO EXAIME THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE EFFECTS OF THE VETO WOULD BE TO IMPLY THAT THE EFFECTS OF THOSE ACTIONS WERE NOT KNOWN, AND WOULD THEREFORE WEAKEN UN DECISIONS. ALSO, THE SOVIET UNION VIEWED THE PRINCIPLE OF UNANIMITY OF THE PERMANENT SC MEMBERS AS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE UN CHARTER AND WOULD CONTINUE TO OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPTS TO REVISE THAT PRINCIPLE. POLAND AND BULGARIA ALSO HAD RESERVATIONS ON PARA 8. UPPER VOLTA CONSIDERED THE UK PROPOSAL ILLEGAL, AND NIGERIA, PAKISTAN AND MEXICO OPPOSED CHALLENGING A GA DECISION.

ECOSOC ASLO ADOPTED A BACIC WORK PROGRAM FOR THE YEAR, INCLUDING A PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 62ND SESSION APRIL 12-MAY 13. IT ALSO EXTENDED TO FEB. 15, 1977 THE DEADLINE FOR NOTIFYING THE SYG OF INTEREST IN JOINING THE COMMITTEE ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES WHICH IS TO NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UN AND THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IT WAS DECIDED TO ENLARGE THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE PREPARATORY SUBCOMMITTEE FOR THE WORLD CONFERENCE TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION FROM 16 TO 23 MEMBERS. THE PRESIDENT IS TO APPOINT THE MEMBERS WITH DUE REGARD TO EQUITABLE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRUBITION, AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE WILL MEET IN NEW YORK IN MARCH.

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PRESIDENT SMID (CZECHOSLOVAKIA) MADE A STATEMENT ON THE HUMANITARIAN NEEDS OF LEBANON AND NOTED THAT SYG'S APPEALS FOR ASSISTANCE. HE ALSO INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE VICE PRESIDENTS WILL SERVE AS CHAIRMEN OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES: RIVAS (COLOMBIA) --

ECOMIC COMMITTEE; ALGARD (NORWAY) -- SOCIAL COMMITTEE; EHSASSI
(IRAN) -- POLICY AND PROGRAM COORDINATION COMMITTEE; AND MAHGOUB
(SUDAN) -- AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS.

5. POPULATION COMMISSION --
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IN THE AFTERNOON JAN 14, THE COMMISSION CONCLUDED CONSIDERATION
OF THE SUBJECTS OF FERTILITY AND FAMILY PLANNING, POLULATION AND
DEVELOPMENT, AND POPULATION POLICIES, HEARING STATEMENTS BY
18 DELS AND RESPONSES BY MEMBERS OF THE POLULATION DIVISION. JAN 17,
THE COMMISSIN TOOK UP MONITORING AND REVIEW AND APPRASIAL OF THE 1974
WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION, AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVI-
TIES. STATEMENTS WERE MADE BY TALWAR, OF TECHNICAL SERVICES FOR THE
COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING; EL-BADRY, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FOR RESERACH OF THE POPOLATION DIVISION; CABELLO, OF THE POPULATION
PROGRAM AND PROJECTIONS OFFICE; HUTCHINSON, TECHNICAL ADVISER ON
POPULATION PLANNING; AND GILLE, OF THE UN FUND FOR POPULATION
ACTIVITIES. TABAH, DIRECTOR OF THE UN POPULATION DIVISION, REPLIED
TO QUESTIONS.

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USIE-00 PRS-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 /127 W
-----180150Z 072819 /62

O P 180056Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2073
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6. PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR TCDC CONFERENCE --

THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR THE UN CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES MET AS A WORKING GROUP IN THE AFTERNOON JAN. 13 AND ENGAGED IN A DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET DESPITE EFFORTS BY THE UNDP STAFF MEMBERS AND SOME DELEGATES TO DEFLECT SUCH AN APPROACH. DONOR STATE REPRESENTATIVES CRITICIZED THE "LAVISHNESS" OF BUDGET ITEMS, WHILE MOST LDC SPOKESMEN TENDED TO AGREE WITH THE SECRETARIAT CONTENTION THAT THE ALLOCATIONS WERE MINIMAL. MOST CRITICIZED WAS THE INFORMATION SUPPORT PROGRAM, WHICH DREW FIRE FROM CANADA, FINLAND, FRANCE, NORWAY, SWITZERLAND, POLAND, UK AND THE US. BY CONTRAST, IT WAS UNCRITICALLY SUPPORTED BY AUSTRALIA AND THE NETHERLANDS.
(USUN 123)

7. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS --

THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP (WG) ON A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS CONCLUDED ITS ONE WEEK SESSION JAN. 14, AT WHICH IT LAID THE GROUNDWORK FOR ITS FUTURE WORK ON A CODE. ECOSOC WAS REQUESTED TO LENGTHEN THE PERIOD SET ASIDE FOR THE COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS TO PERMIT THE WG TO MEET BEFORE THE COMMISSION FOR A WEEK AND A HALF BEGINNING APRIL 18, FOLLOWED BY THE COMMISSION'S SESSION, WHICH WOULD CONCLUDE

MAY 6. (ECOSOC NOTED THIS PROPOSAL JAN. 14.) THE ELECTION OF A THIRD VICE CHAIRMAN WAS DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT SESSION, AND CHAIRMAN NIKLASSON (SWEDEN) WAS DESIGNATED TO SERVE AS INTERIM RAPPORTEUR.

AMONG THE ISSUES SET OUT IN THE "LIST OF MAJOR PRINCIPLES AND ISSUES RELATED TO THE ACTIVITIES OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS", PLACED BEFORE THE WG BY THE CHAIRMAN, WERE OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL LAWS BY TRANSNATIONALS, THEIR ADHERENCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO ECONOMIC AND SOCIO-CULTURAL OBJECTIVES, THEIR RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, THEIR NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS, AND THEIR ABSTENTION FROM CORRUPT PRACTICES. IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREA THE LIST MENTIONS SUCH SUBJECTS AS OWNERSHIP AND CONTROL, FINANCING, TAXATION, RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES, EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR, AND CONSUMER AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION. ALSO INCLUDED ARE THE TOPIC OF GOVERNMENTS' TREATMENT OF TRANSNATIONALS, AND THE QUESTIONS OF NATIONALIZATION AND COMPENSATION.

8. WORKING GROUP ON INTERNATIONAL SALE OF GOODS --

THE WORKING GROUP (WG) JAN. 14 CONCLUDED ITS TWO-WEEK SESSION DURING WHICH IT MADE WHAT ITS CHAIRMAN CALLED SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS ON A PROPOSED SET OF RULES GOVERNING THE CIRCUMSTANCES UNDER WHICH BUYERS AND SELLERS FORM CONTRACTS FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SALE OF GOODS. THE WG REQUESTED UNCITRAL TO ENABLE IT TO MEET AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER TO CONTINUE AND PERHAPS CONCLUDE ITS WORK ON THE TEXT, AND ASKED FOR AUTHORIZATION TO HOLD A THIRD SESSION NEXT JANUARY, IF NECESSARY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN00126
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770017-0891
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770139/aaaabihz.tel
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3564572
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USUN DAILY CLASSIFIED SUMMARY NO. 6 JANUARY 17, 1977 TABLE OF CONTENTS
TAGS: OGEN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/81fba2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009